



South Pima Regional Partnership Council

Call to Order/Welcome and Council Introductions

A Regular Meeting of the First Things First South Pima Regional Partnership Council was held on April 18, 2013 at Robles Elementary School, 10105 South Sasabe Road, Tucson, Arizona 85736.

Chair Fran Driver asked for a moment of silence for all those affected by the events in Boston this week.

Chair Fran Driver then called the meeting to order at approximately 9:04 a.m. and called upon members to briefly introduce themselves.

Members Present: Connie Espinoza, Tony Bruno, Cheryl McGlothlen, Paul Ohm, Fran Driver, Debbie Palmer and Susan Pace
Members Present telephonically: Cyndi Barningham

Members Absent: Nathan McCann

Others Present: Eleanor Droegemeier, South Pima Regional Director; Erin Lyons, Senior Regional Director; and Siobhan McDonald, Administrative Assistant

Call to the Public

Lisette DeMars, Community Outreach Coordinator, *First Things First*: Ms. DeMars provided information to the Regional Council about events and connections made in the last two months. She reminded members to contact her with any questions or connections they would like her to make.

Vanessa Felty, *United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona*: Ms. Felty provided the Regional Council with updates on the Coordination of Services Grant. She informed the members that 324 children are currently participating in the Dolly Parton Imagination Library in the South Pima Region, and shared the recent successes of the distribution of Resource Guides and participation of community partners in the coordination meetings.

Approval of Minutes of the February 19, 2013 South Pima Regional Partnership Council Meeting

A motion was made by member Tony Bruno that the South Pima Regional Partnership Council approve the minutes of the February 19, 2013 South Pima Regional Partnership Council meeting as presented, seconded by Vice Chair Connie Espinoza. Motion carried.

Chair Driver announced the Regional Council would move to Agenda Item 5 and return to Item 4 when Chief Executive Officer Rhian Evans Allvin arrived.

FTF Boundary Taskforce Recommendation Update

Chair Fran Driver introduced the Agenda item and turned the floor over to Regional Director Eleanor Droegemeier. Ms. Droegemeier provided the Regional Council with an overview of Regional Boundary Taskforce recommendations and their implications, referring to an attached sheet. She provided basic information as she was sure that Ms. Allvin was also going to address the topic, and ended soon after Ms. Allvin arrived.

FTF Updates and Discussion with CEO Rhian Evans Allvin

Chief Executive Officer Rhian Evans Allvin addressed the Regional Council. She recognized members Nathan McCann and Susan Pace for their one year of service with First Things First. Ms. Allvin first spoke of the National Research and Evaluation Panel, stating that they had two major recommendations and sharing more detail on each. First, that a longitudinal study is not the best fit for First Things First, rather that the agency should focus on developing a robust database. The second recommendation was the creation of the Statewide Developmental Kindergarten Readiness Entry Assessment. This assessment should be conducted during the first three months of kindergarten, not prior to the child's entry into school. Discussion is now occurring around what type of tool to use, with a grant awarded by the Virginia Piper Trust for the purpose of developing or adapting a tool and determining appropriate use. Ms. Allvin stated that they hope to pilot whichever assessment tool is chosen next year with a school district who expresses interest. Member Ohm stated that was exciting news. Ms. Allvin also provided updates on the taskforces created for Public/Private Partnerships as well as the regional boundaries, and legislative updates. Ms. Allvin answered a couple questions on the Regional Boundary Taskforce recommendations.

Conflict of Interest

Chair Fran Driver asked members to look at the agenda and declare any conflicts they may have. Members Susan Pace, Cyndi Barningham and Vice Chair Espinoza had no conflicts with items on today's agenda. Chair Driver declared a conflict with 7B because of employment with a sub grantee, and member Tony Bruno declared a conflict with 7B due to contracting work on grants with the sub grantee. Members Cheryl McGlothlen, Paul Ohm, and Debbie Palmer all declared a conflict with 7A due to their centers benefiting from the grantees' services, but stated they did not have a direct conflict with item 7B as they did not receive any financial benefit.

Discussion and Possible Action on Renewal Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2014

Chair Fran Driver introduced the Agenda item and turned the floor over to Regional Director Eleanor Droegemeier. Ms. Droegemeier briefly went over the Review document and the services provided by Make Way for Books. She added that this grantee just went through a Quality Assurance visit with flying colors.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Connie Espinoza that the South Pima Regional Partnership Council renew the Center Based Literacy grant award with Make Way for Books, First Things First contract #FTF-RC018-13-0366-01, for the period of July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014, in the amount of \$112,090, seconded by member Tony Bruno. Chair called for a roll call vote and it was determined that the council did not have quorum due to conflicts of interest. Motion failed.

Chair Fran Driver then stated: "At this time it appears that it is necessary to invoke the Rule of Impossibility which states: "Because 4 out of 9 members have declared a conflict of interest, we are unable to proceed with this agenda item. As a result we may invoke the Rule of Impossibility. The Rule 8.8 of the Open Meeting Law handbook states, that in the unlikely situation that a public agency cannot act because most of its members have a conflict of interest in the agency's official records A.R.S. 38-508, we may now have the rule of impossibility."

A motion was made by Vice Chair Connie Espinoza that the South Pima Regional Partnership Council renew the Center Based Literacy grant award with Make Way for Books, First Things First contract #FTF-RC018-13-0366-01, for the period of July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014, in the amount of \$112,090, seconded by member Tony Bruno. Motion Carried.

Chair Fran Driver turned the chair over to Vice Chair Connie Espinoza. Ms. Espinoza asked Ms. Droegemeier to take the Regional Council through the second part of the document. Ms. Droegemeier provided an overview of the services and model of Pima County Health Department's Oral Health program, including their successes and their few challenges.

A motion was made by member Susan Pace that the South Pima Regional Partnership Council renew the Oral Health grant award with Pima County Health Department, First Things First contract #FTF-RC018-13-0523-01, for the period of July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014, in the amount of \$224,981, seconded by Cheryl McGlothlen. Motion carried, with members Tony Bruno and Fran Driver not participating due to conflicts of interest.

Vice Chair Connie Espinoza turned the Chair back over to Chair Fran Driver.

Coordination of Services RFGA FTF-RC018-14-0439-00: Discussion & Possible Approval of Review Committee Recommendations

Chair Fran Driver introduced the Agenda item and then stated:

"I would like to remind the Regional Council and the public that only those non-regional council members reasonably necessary to the executive session may attend the executive session. The Senior Regional Director and Grants and Contract Specialists may participate for the purpose of providing technical assistance for the process. All others please leave the room after the motion and vote. Please take your belongings with you. In addition, I remind all Regional Council members and staff that matters discussed in executive session must be kept confidential by those attending pursuant to ARS 38-431.03 (C), except in some very limited circumstances, such as in the course of an Open Meeting Law investigation by the Attorney General or County Attorney. Further, executive session is subject to the provision of the Open Meeting Law."

A motion was made by member Tony Bruno that the South Pima Regional Partnership Council move into Executive Session pursuant to ARS 38-431.03 (A) (2), for the purpose of Agenda Item #8 –Discussion and Possible Approval of Coordination of Services RFGA #FTF-RC018-14-0439-00 per Review Committee recommendations, seconded by Vice Chair Connie Espinoza. Motion carried.

Executive Session began at 10:11 a.m.

A motion was made by member Debbie Palmer to close executive session for the South Pima Regional Partnership Council, seconded by Vice Chair Connie Espinoza. Motion carried.

Executive Session ended at 11:34 a.m.

Chair Fran Driver summarized the executive session: "During executive session, the South Pima Regional Partnership Council discussed the Review Committee's recommendation of award for South Pima Coordination of Services RFGA #FTF-RC018-14-0439-00. There was one application submitted. The review committee met on April 9, 2013 and conducted a confidential review of the Request for Grant Application. The Review Committee submitted a recommendation for approval which the Regional Council discussed during executive session."

A motion was made by member Susan that the South Pima Regional Partnership Council approve the Review Committee recommendation of the South Pima Coordination of Services RFGA #FTF-RC018-14-0439-00 and present it for consideration of award to the First Things First Board, seconded by member Cheryl McGlothlen. Motion carried.

Regional Director's Report

Ms. Droegemeier began by highlighting the expenditure and data reports. Members asked questions and engaged in discussion between themselves and CEO Rhian Allvin regarding Quality First scholarships numbers. Ms. Droegemeier then provided updates on Pre-Kindergarten Scholarships, 2014 Regional Needs & Assets, and the Family, Friend and Neighbor strategy. She provided an update on the Benchmarking workgroups, and reminded them of the meetings in the afternoon regarding Regional Boundaries.

General Discussion

Member Tony Bruno provided an update regarding the Arivaca Action Center's Early Learning Center. He announced that the repairs were completed and the center is reopened as of this week. Administrative Assistant Siobhan McDonald reminded members to complete their required trainings and any outstanding paperwork, and to see her for questions or concerns.

Call to the Public

Shanna Kukla, Coordinator Early Childhood Education Programs, *Pima Community College*: Ms. Kukla provided the Regional Council with updates on the number of T.E.A.C.H. scholars taking classes in Pima County (114) and the increases in applications for graduation rates in the last five years.

Next Meeting

Chair Fran Driver reminded the Regional Council of the date and time of the next meeting, and the necessity of all members being present for quorum. No members reported any scheduling conflicts.

Adjourn

Chair Fran Driver adjourned the meeting at approximately 11:20 a.m.

Submitted By _____
Siobhan McDonald, Administrative Assistant

Approved By _____
Fran Driver, Chair

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20____.